

Fort Monroe National Monument



Fortress Monroe

Coastal Defense Network

From lessons learned in the War of 1812, the U.S. built a Third System network of forts for seacoast defense. Fort Monroe was the first and largest of these forts and named for President James Monroe. Construction took 15 years (1819-1834). The fort protected Washington, D.C. during the Civil War.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/fomr

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE